

**Law Enforcement Division**  
**Bi-Weekly Field Report**  
**4/15/13 – 4/28/13**

**DISTRICT 1**

Sgt. Marc Pomroy and CO Marvin Gerlach patrolled the walleye spawning run on the Menominee River which has a special open season for walleye with a one fish limit during the spring. Late in the night, a subject was observed placing a walleye in a cooler in the back of a pickup. The subject then returned to the Menominee River and continued to fish. Surveillance was continued and almost four hours later the subject and a friend both returned to the pickup, each of them carrying a large walleye. Contact was made with the subjects and four walleye were located in the truck. Both subjects were ticketed for overlimits of walleye.

CO Brian Bacon worked the walleye run on the boundary waters of the Menominee River. CO Bacon set up surveillance on a group of anglers, and observed one angler catch more than his limit of walleye. When the anglers left the river, CO Bacon contacted them at their vehicle. After a short discussion it was established that the one angler had caught his limit of one walleye plus fish for two others in his group. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Menominee River, CO Marvin Gerlach observed two subjects acting suspiciously. One subject was then observed snagging a walleye and keeping it. Contact was made when the subjects prepared to leave and enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter received a call from one of his contacts regarding information on stolen property. CO Painter relayed the information to the Michigan State Police (MSP) who responded and arrested two subjects for possession of stolen property. The subjects were in possession of an air compressor and numerous power tools that were reported stolen recently in Iron County.

CO Grant Emery was called to the scene of an overturned boat on the Montreal River in Gogebic County. Three subjects were in a small boat when it capsized in the strong current. The spring runoff has produced high water levels, and the subjects struggled to get to shore. CO Emery located one subject at a nearby residence and received directions on where to look for the other two subjects. The two wet subjects were located on the river bank and taken to the local hospital for treatment of hypothermia. The boat was lost in the swift current, and it was determined that no life jackets had been on board. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Grant Emery was called to the scene of an ORV that was swept out into the Montreal River near Lake Superior. CO Emery located the driver at the scene, and he stated he had driven his ORV into the river to wash it off. The swift current quickly

washed his four wheeler from his control and down the river. It came to rest on the shore of an island, and with the assistance of a group of white water kayakers, a rope was secured to the ORV. Due to the strong currents, attempts to retrieve the ORV failed. The ORV was secured along the island and will be removed when the water levels retreat.

## **DISTRICT 2**

CO Mike Hammill was on patrol during the trout opener and observed two subjects fishing. When they saw the CO, they threw their fishing poles in the woods and began to walk away. The CO pursued and caught up to the suspicious subjects. Upon returning to the woods CO Hammill located the two fishing poles along with two undersized trout. Neither of the two men had a fishing license. Tickets were issued and the fish seized.

CO Kevin Postma located an illegally baited turkey blind, and after working it for several days, he finally caught the individual hunting over the baited area. The subject showed a valid turkey kill tag and admitted that he knew it was against the law to hunt turkeys over bait. He took his ticket without complaint. Moments after the contact, the CO was speaking with other nearby turkey hunters who explained how they didn't have any luck, but their friend had shot a turkey the day before. This friend happened to be the subject that the CO had just issued a ticket to for the illegal bait. The CO went back to the location and received a full confession about the untagged turkey.

CO Mike Hammill was on patrol when he observed fresh empty beer cans in the roadway. Later he checked a group of subjects plinking with a .22 rifle and lighting gas on fire in the roadway. They were drinking the same kind of beer that he'd seen in the road earlier. He went back and retrieved the empties and then re-contacted the subjects and obtained a confession. Tickets were issued for litter.

CO John Wenzel arrested two individuals for spearing walleye along the shore of Little Bay DeNoc. Eight walleye and two spears were seized.

Sgt. Darryl Shann contacted six subjects in an area prone to walleye spearing on the Ford River. One subject was holding a large walleye packed with snow. A ticket was issued and the fish was seized.

## **DISTRICT 3**

On Thursday night, CO Carl VanderWall received a complaint of a live bear in the bed of a pick-up truck. COs VanderWall and Duane Budreau responded to Pellston and learned the subject had believed the bear was a road-kill and had picked it up while northbound on I-75 near West Branch. When he had gotten to Pellston to pick up his brother, the bear was observed sitting up in the bed of the truck. When the COs arrived the bear was laying down and lethargic. The subject was ticketed for illegally possessing a bear and the bear was transferred to the CO's truck. The bear was then transported to an undisclosed wooded location, in hopes it would fully recover.

On Friday evening, COs Matt Theunick and Eric Bottorff responded to a complaint of a dead bear not far off a road. Prior to the CO's arrival, the caller stated he observed a vehicle pull over and load the bear into their truck. A license plate number was not obtained.

Later, near midnight on Friday, CO Andrea Erratt answered a complaint in which a subject stated he had picked up a dead bear from the location above and wanted to keep it. CO Erratt met the subject at his residence and explained it might have been possible if he would have called first, prior to picking up the bear. CO Erratt took the bear, and gave the subject a warning for possession of a road-kill bear without a permit. The bear was later identified as the same bear that had been picked up near West Branch the night before.

CO Matt Theunick and Sgt. Greg Drogowski responded to a complaint of a subject shooting geese on the Indian River Golf Course. COs located evidence and found the suspect. After interviewing the subject, he admitted to shooting three Canada geese with a .22 rifle and hiding them in the woods so he could retrieve them later. The rifle and geese were seized and enforcement action taken for taking waterfowl during the closed season and hunting/shooting within the safety zone of residences.

CO Eric Bottorff stopped an ORV operating on the North Central Hiking Trail. CO Bottorff advised the driver he was operating in about the only illegal area around, as the county road was nearby, as well as the designated ORV trail. The driver stated he knew, as he just went past four "Closed to Motorized Vehicle" signs, but that was the way he came, so it was the only way he knew to get back. He was given a ticket and directions on how to legally get back.

While patrolling an ORV restoration area on state land, COs Eric Bottorff and Mike Feagan located a side-by-side ORV operating in the restored area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Feagan observed a dirt-bike leave a gas station in Indian River, running across the lawn and tearing it up. CO Feagan followed the dirt-biker onto state land where the operator drove through the woods, tearing up a hillside. When finally able to stop him, CO Feagan learned it was the same subject he had written a ticket to the prior week for operating an ORV without a license. While being issued another ticket, the driver stated he felt he was being picked on, obviously not seeing anything wrong with his actions.

CO Andrea Erratt received a complaint about a teenage boy running through a yard carrying a backpack and then later running back up the driveway and through the yard with a rifle. The complainant said the boy was running back toward the Charlevoix Elementary School. CO Erratt responded, talked to the complainant, walked through the woods, and talked to a neighbor who also saw two boys walking. CO Erratt located the father of one of the boys who said the three teenage boys were playing on the trails

with BB guns. The dad said he was sleeping when they left and he could not say for sure that they just had BB guns. CO Erratt walked back to her patrol truck and talked to a sheriff's deputy, who explained the school had been put on lockdown due to the nature of the complaint and proximity to the school. CO Erratt patrolled the area and walked the trails through the woods and dunes, and located the three boys who had two BB guns. The CO warned one juvenile for trespass; he apologized and said he understood how his lever-action BB gun could look like a rifle to someone not familiar with guns. CO Erratt telephoned all of the parents and explained what had been reported and that once contacted their boys had been respectful and cooperative.

CO Andrea Erratt received a complaint about someone burning extremely smelly garbage all day. CO Erratt went to the residence and discovered three men burning building materials, including particle board, linoleum, lamp shades, and other plastic garbage. The subject who rented the house admitted he started the fire because he was trying to clean up the junk in his yard, and hadn't called for a burn permit. The CO gave him the Burn Permit Hotline information and explained if he had called he would have known it was illegal to burn building materials. The subject was ticketed.

CO Steve Speigl and Sgt. Joe Molnar stopped an ORV that was operating the wrong way on a roadway and the operator was not wearing a helmet. In addition to the initial violations, the operator had a suspended driver's license and was in violation of two other ORV laws. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew was patrolling Otsego County when he passed a motorcycle without a registration; the motorcycle attempted to flee but ultimately stopped. The suspect's driver's license was suspended and there were warrants for his arrest. The driver was ticketed for his violations.

Sgt. Joe Molnar received a complaint of two individuals on the Devils River illegally snagging suckers. Sgt. Molnar watched the anglers as they caught numerous suckers then contacted both subjects. The anglers were 17 years old, one was fishing without a license and both were keeping foul-hooked fish. Tickets were issued for the violations.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

Sgt. Mike Bomay received a complaint from Ferris State University Public Safety in regard to a subject dumping gallons of gasoline into a sewer on campus. Sgt. Bomay contacted Lt. Wingate of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) who relayed information of the felony charges and penalties involved with dumping fuel into a water source. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO Brian Lebel were patrolling Federal Land when they came across an ORV operator with no helmet riding in a closed area. The ORV operator attempted to flee and struck a tree before coming to a stop. The ORV was unlicensed and the operator had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. The warrant was for a bull at large. The bull had gotten loose and wandered to a neighboring pool, where he

drank from the pool before destroying it. Enforcement action was taken, including lodging the subject in the Mecosta County Jail.

COs Mike Wells and Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County were enforcing the Muskegon River access closures due to extreme flood conditions when they responded to a complaint that two canoes had launched from one of the closed access sites. The COs located a vehicle parked at the barricade with a note attached to the windshield reading, "We're just taking pictures." The COs were unable to locate the individuals on foot and were preparing to launch their vessel when they received a complaint that the two canoes had already capsized in the Muskegon River. The occupants were able to make it to shore safely and were issued a ticket for entering a closed area.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO Brian Lebel received a complaint of an individual who was burning brush during high fire danger. The fire escaped and burned nearly five acres of woods. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeff Ginn and Mike Wells were working the State access closures along the Muskegon River when CO Ginn was advised that two subjects had dismantled the barricade at the High Rollaway access and launched two paddle boards. CO Wells located an unoccupied vehicle at a different downstream access site. The COs determined the two vehicles were related and stood by. When the paddlers arrived COs Wells and Ginn escorted the men back to the launching site confirmed the trespass and took enforcement action.

CO Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County was on patrol when he observed several ORVs riding along a power line right of way. Upon contact with the group CO Ginn determined the subjects had been riding in the closed area all weekend, including cross county in the Huron-Manistee National Forest. CO Ginn educated the riders of the local ordinance allowing them to operate on the shoulder of the roadway and also informed them they were operating only a few miles from a designated ORV trail. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells received information of large amounts of deer parts at an unoccupied residence. CO Wells contacted the former resident and was able to determine that several illegal deer were taken, with charges including take deer no license, loan/borrow a deer kill tag to another and take overlimit of deer. Tickets were issued to three subjects involved for the various charges.

CO Carla Soper of Manistee County and Sgt. Robert Torres were informed of a litter complaint where the suspect had dumped numerous large bags of garbage into a river. The COs located the trash and used a net to retrieve the bags that were partially submerged in the water. They were able to sift through the bags and locate the name of a potential suspect. After a thorough investigation, CO Soper was able to locate the man responsible for the mess. He was ordered to clean up the litter and was ticketed for the offense.

While checking for fishing activity at the Manistee Pier, CO Carla Soper watched as a bass boat neared the harbor from Lake Michigan and entered the Manistee Channel up on plane. The operator continued up the river, including passing the Coast Guard Station, creating a wake in a no-wake zone. CO Soper was able to contact the subject who informed her that he was familiar with Florida boating regulations, but not Michigan boating laws. After further discussion he stated that under these particular circumstances in Florida, he would have more than likely slowed down. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Carla Soper was approached by two subjects advising they believed the police were looking for them. CO Soper obtained identification from them and contacted Central Dispatch to check if there were any pending investigations involving the two. A LEIN check revealed that they both had warrants through the local court, one of which was for failing to comply with the court judgment on a DNR violation. Neither subject could post bond and were subsequently lodged.

CO Carla Soper of Manistee County worked a boat patrol on the walleye/trout opening day on Manistee Lake and the Manistee Channel. The first three anglers CO Soper contacted were fishing without licenses. All three were ticketed for the offense.

Following an investigation from last fall, CO Steve Converse of Manistee County served an arrest warrant on an individual for purchasing too many firearm deer kill tags along with taking an overlimit of antlered deer. The subject took two spike bucks and one seven point buck.

CO Steve Converse contacted two hunters with a blind set up on one side of a road and their turkey decoy on the other side. Just beyond their turkey decoy was another road. In addition to the unsafe backstop hunting location one of the hunters did not have a valid turkey hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 5**

COs John Huspen and Chuck McPherson assisted Crawford County deputies and EMTs with a subject who had badly cut his face and neck with a chainsaw while cutting wood in an area inaccessible by emergency vehicles. The subject lost large amounts of blood and had to be taken out of the woods on a backboard to an awaiting ambulance. Officers were informed the following day that the subject had cut his carotid artery and is recovering in the hospital.

CO Chris Bowen was contacted by CO Larn Strawn regarding a subject trespassing and taking a turkey in Isabella County. CO Bowen interviewed the subject, who lives in Roscommon County, and obtained a full confession to trespassing and taking a turkey. Officer Bowen seized the turkey and forwarded the information to CO Strawn for prosecution.

COs Brian Olsen and Phil Hudson while checking a heavily fished Walleye spot after dark observed two subjects catching and keeping several Walleye. After a lengthy observation, one of the subjects began to leave with some of the fish. Contact was made and it was discovered that one of the subjects was in possession of 12 Walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Olsen received a complaint of a subject shooting a turkey out the window of a truck. The complainant was able to provide the subject's license plate number. CO Olsen checked area records and located a seasonal residence that came back to the same name. While en route to the area, CO Olsen observed a hunter in camouflage clothing operating an ORV. A quick check revealed that it was actually the subject he was looking for. After a brief interview, the individual confessed to shooting the turkey out of his vehicle using a handgun. He told the CO that he was on his way to pick up the turkey which he had hidden in the nearby woods. Enforcement action was taken at the scene.

While checking state land, CO Brian Olsen observed two ORVs that were stuck in an area lake. Both subjects were wearing waders and their ORVs were equipped with 'snorkels' on their air breathers to allow them to operate in deep water. Both individuals were ticketed for their violations.

CO Steve Lockwood was checking state land for turkey hunters when he observed a truck parked on the roadway with large bags of bird seed in the back. The CO was able to track the subjects deep into the woods where they were hunting. CO Lockwood located the father/daughter team who were using the bird seed to bait the turkeys. Enforcement action was taken for hunting turkeys over bait.

CO Warren MacNeill found himself netting Steelhead in a farm field after high water from all the rains flooded some area farm fields. As the high water receded, it left numerous Steelhead without any way back to the river. Officer MacNeill was able to net and relocate the Steelhead back to the river where they belonged.

While checking good fishing holes along the AuSable River, CO Jonathan Warner came across a subject he had ticketed the year before for spearing steelhead. The subject was fishing with hook and line; however, he hadn't bothered to purchase a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jonathan Warner responded to a recreational trespass complaint and was able to catch the suspect during the act of trespassing. It was also discovered that the subject had killed a turkey while trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough responded to a complaint of a possible early turkey hunter the evening before the opener. Upon arrival, CO McCullough interviewed the suspect, who claimed he was not hunting but rather scouting for turkeys. There were some real flaws in the story including the fact that the suspect was dressed in a full "gilly" style camo suit and carrying a shotgun and turkey loads. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling for turkey hunters on state land in Gladwin County, CO Mark Papineau contacted an individual who was wearing waders. The subject advised that he was scouting the area for the upcoming beaver trapping season in November. CO Papineau checked the area and located drag marks coming out of the nearby creek along with a wet cement block which was stashed behind a tree. Additionally, the CO located a beaver trap and trapping gloves stashed in the area. When presented with the evidence, the subject confessed to trapping beaver during the closed season. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Papineau and Steve Lockwood received a report of a 15-year old boy in full cardiac arrest on state land in Gladwin County. After a brief search of the area, Officers Lockwood and Papineau, along with paramedics, located the subject and immediately began CPR. The 15-year old boy and his father had been turkey hunting when the youth shot a turkey. A short time later, the boy collapsed to the ground and stopped breathing. The father immediately contacted 911 and began CPR. Despite best efforts, the boy was not able to be resuscitated.

CO Mark Papineau received a complaint regarding several subjects trespassing on private land to gain access to the Rifle River in Ogemaw County. The subjects intentionally walked past numerous "No Trespassing" signs and became belligerent when confronted by the landowner. CO Papineau was able to contact the individuals who denied any knowledge of the incident. Unknown to the anglers, the activity was caught by a hidden trail camera. When presented with the photo and video evidence, the anglers confessed to the trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO Bob Hobkirk received a call from a complainant who inquired about the ending time for turkey hunting. The complainant had observed a hunter sneak into a field toward some turkeys 10 minutes prior to the end of turkey hunting for the day. CO Hobkirk arrived in the area 35 minutes after hunting hours ended and heard the subject shoot four times at a turkey. The hunter was met at his vehicle by CO Hobkirk. He missed the turkey that he tried to shoot but received a ticket for hunting turkeys after hours.

COs Phil Hudson and Brian Olson were on foot patrol along the Lake Huron shoreline when they contacted an angler in possession of 12 walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster and Sgt. Tony Soave worked a possible overlimit complaint on the Kawkawlin River on the walleye opening weekend. Sgt. Soave sat in an unmarked unit where he was able to observe the subject catching fish and putting them on a stringer. After a short time of observing the subjects, Sgt. Soave called CO Foerster to make contact. The COs found one of the subjects over his legal limit by five walleye. Numerous other violations were found and enforcement action was taken.

COs Seth Rhodea and Jason A. Smith contacted two anglers late at night after they were observed spearing a steelhead, then hiding it under some brush. Upon contacting the anglers, neither was found to have a fishing license and an uncased firearm was located in their vehicle. The anglers were ticketed on several of the violations.

CO Seth Rhodea received a complaint about a subject dumping yard waste onto his neighbor's property. The complainant had witnessed the dumping and told the person that if they cleaned up the mess, then he would not make a complaint about the littering. The yard waste was not cleaned up and CO Rhodea contacted and issued a ticket for littering. The CO also stood by while the yard waste was cleaned up and taken back to the first party's property.

After receiving a complaint about a deer hanging in a garage in April, CO Seth Rhodea contacted the homeowner, who showed the CO an untagged deer hanging in her garage. Upon questioning the homeowner, she said that she had not killed the deer and it was given to her. Subsequent interviews led the CO to believe that the original homeowner was the responsible party for killing the deer. A report has been submitted to the prosecutor's office and the homeowner is facing numerous charges for the illegal deer.

While on his day off, Sgt. Tony Soave came across a deer carcass with three leg hold traps placed around it and several snares on runways going to the deer carcass. There were no tags on any of the snares and it was two days before snaring season opened. Sgt. Soave went home and returned with wire cutters and removed all of the snares and leg hold traps that were also untagged. While removing the snares, the trapper showed up and was ticketed for setting snares prior to the season, using untagged traps/snares and trapping without a fur harvester's license.

While patrolling the Tittabawassee River on the Walleye opener, CO Dan Lee and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly observed two anglers leave the shoreline as the COs were approaching. One of the anglers was carrying a stringer with one fish and the other had a bucket. The COs contacted the pair at their vehicles. There were six walleyes in the bucket, one over the limit. The man with the bucket, after realizing what the COs discovered, quickly told his friend with the stringer that he must have put a fish in the bucket. The man with the stringer, just as quickly, denied putting any fish in the bucket and left the COs to deal with the violator.

While patrolling the Tittabawassee River on the walleye opener, CO Dan Lee and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly observed a vessel pulling away from shore after picking up a passenger. The COs recognized the boat as one they had checked earlier in the day. At that time the boat was occupied by only two anglers and they had eight walleyes in the box. The COs made contact and the three aboard explained they had 12 walleyes in the boat and had just given three to someone on shore so they could continue to fish. After discussing some numbers and the addition of a passenger, it turned out that the original two anglers had caught and kept 15 walleyes and that the new passenger had not caught any. Tickets were issued.

While checking boats on the Tittabawassee River on the walleye opener, CO Dan Lee and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly observed a boat operator acting suspicious. The operator went from boat to boat and stayed well upstream from the COs. The COs watched the boat operator and it was obvious that he was asking the occupants of each boat something, as they would all shake their heads in a negative fashion. Finally, the COs observed someone hand the operator a life jacket. The boat operator was contacted and enforcement action was taken for not having a personal flotation device (PFD) on board.

CO Ken Lowell checked anglers on the channels of a lake in Montcalm County looking for fishing violations. One angler on the channel saw the CO and dropped his fishing pole and pulled out his cell phone. When asked for his fishing license the angler acted like he was on an important phone call and began walking away. After a short walk it was determined that he did not have an important call or a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking activity on state land in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell located a vehicle parked in the middle of a two-track. The CO parked his patrol vehicle and approached the vehicle through the woods. When the CO reached the vehicle the occupant jumped out and began asking questions. After a short talk and an inspection of the vehicle, it was determined that the operator of the vehicle was in possession of open intoxicants and marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg located a property with fresh tracks leading into it before turkey season began. CO Lundberg watched the property for activity and noted it was very active for the week leading up to the turkey season opener. CO Lundberg checked a turkey hunter on the property on the turkey opener and discovered the hunter was hunting over bait. A ticket was issued.

COs Joel Lundberg and CO Jay Person received a complaint of ORVs illegally operating on state land. The COs responded and attempted to stop two subjects on ORVs. One operator fled when he saw the COs and the other operator stopped. The second operator was located a short time later. Both were riding in an area closed to ORV use. The operator who fled did not have a headlight or taillight, was riding without a helmet, and had been drinking alcohol. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Larn R. Strawn received a complaint of suspicious persons walking into a field carrying shotguns and beer. The CO knew of a hunting camp in the area and stopped in to see if the local hunters could offer any clues. While talking to the hunters and surveying their turkey success, the CO discovered a dressed and skinned turkey which had not been tagged. The hunters told the CO that the hunter who shot the turkey had gone to retrieve his hunting license. The CO waited for the hunter to return and after a short time a hunter returned in a truck. The hunter pulled into the driveway and seemed surprised that a CO was there. While talking to the driver, the CO observed two other hunters walking up the driveway. When they saw the CO they immediately turned around and started walking away. The CO stopped them and discovered one of them

was the one who had shot the turkey and failed to tag it. The CO discovered the tag in the hunter's pocket. The hunter was carrying a loaded shotgun and admitted he was trying to get another turkey. The other hunter had no license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Larn R. Strawn was dispatched to a complaint of persons trespassing who killed a turkey. After arriving at the complaint location, the CO contacted multiple witnesses and was given a license plate number. The CO canvassed the property, located the kill site and recovered a spent shell. Investigative work revealed the hunter was from out of town. CO Strawn contacted CO Chris Bowen who ultimately tracked down the hunter. CO Bowen recovered the turkey and obtained a confession for the violations. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Mike McGee received a complaint of two subjects turkey hunting while trespassing. CO McGee was able to locate the subjects and issued them tickets for recreational trespass.

CO Mike Mshar responded to a complaint from the sheriff's department of a subject illegally netting steelhead in a parking lot along the Rabbit River after the recent flooding. The subject was witnessed performing the illegal act and having his dog retrieve the fish. CO Mshar also had a complaint in the same area of three subjects spearing steelhead in the same parking lot. When contact was made, it was determined that one of the subjects had been arrested for related illegal fishing practices in the past and one of the other subjects didn't have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Mshar responded to a complaint of a subject operating his vehicle illegally off road in the Allegan State Game Area (SGA). The subject was located and ticketed for operating illegally off road and for destroying vegetation, including numerous small trees.

CO Mike Mshar came across two teenagers operating their dirt bikes illegally in the Allegan SGA. Contact was made with the parents who were ticketed for allowing juveniles to operate ORVs unsupervised, while a warning was given for the illegal operation. Both juveniles will be attending a local ORV safety class per CO Mshar's request.

## **DISTRICT 8**

While patrolling northern Livingston County, CO Daniel Prince stopped four ORVs operating on the roadway. The parent was out on the first nice day of spring riding with his five children. CO Prince issued the adult operator a ticket for operating his ORV on the roadway and talked about the other 13 violations.

CO Pete Purdy assisted a local deputy in searching the Lakelands Trail for two subjects reportedly seen shooting long guns on the trail. The two subjects were located and questioned about the incident. They said they were walking along the trail target shooting and took the officers to one of their target shooting areas. The officers discovered broken glass bottles, plastic jugs that had been shot up and discarded, spent shotgun shells, empty shotgun shell boxes, and other trash left behind. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn swore out a felony warrant issued through the prosecutor's office against a man who was arrested by CO Thorn last fall who had a heroin needle in his pocket. The subject was jailed on a warrant during the incident, which resulted from a traffic stop where the man attempted to punch the female driver of the vehicle he was in. A warrant request was then submitted for the possession of heroin. The subject is being charged as a habitual offender.

COs Derek Miller and Jason J Smith were working fishing activity in Lenawee County and heard a call about a rollover accident on the county line. They were minutes away and responded and were the first ones on scene. Both occupants were out of the vehicle and were treated, one with minor injuries. The COs closed down part of the highway and assisted with traffic direction until a tow truck arrived and the scene was turned over to local deputies.

COs Derek Miller and Jason J Smith contacted a group of anglers after watching them from shore for quite some time. One subject was issued a ticket for fishing without a license, another subject stated that he was not fishing and that if they were watching, they would have known that. However the COs told the subject that they had been there for quite some time and that his story was not going to work. The subject also had six warrants out for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason J Smith and Derek Miller were headed to assist CO Jeff Walker in Ingham County when they made contact with a MSP trooper sitting along the side of the road. The trooper advised there was a suicidal/barricaded gunman just ahead and there may be a couple of deputies in the area. The COs assisted the trooper with securing the scene, the subject surrendered without incident.

CO Dan Bigger was called out on a complaint of a subject hunting from a raised platform blind with a firearm. CO Bigger was able to arrive at the complaint within 15 minutes and observed several Tom turkeys in the area where the subject was thought to be hunting. To insure he didn't interrupt a legal hunt he found a location in a thick weeded area and remained there until the turkeys were gone. CO Bigger then observed a subject coming out of a ground blind and not a raised blind. The subject was contacted and advised that his ground blind was on Consumers Energy property. Further investigation revealed the subject was hunting with illegal shot for turkey. The subject insisted that he has permission to hunt in this location. Follow up was conducted with Consumers Energy and charges are now pending on both violations.

COs Shane Webster and Damon Owens were travelling to a complaint along I-94 when they observed a vehicle approaching from behind them at a high rate of speed. The vehicle passed the patrol vehicles and began accelerating. CO Webster moved behind the vehicle and paced its speed at 87 mph in the 70 mph zone. The vehicle was stopped and the occupant advised that he was in a hurry to use the restroom. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster checked a township park and access site that is a popular fishing location. CO Webster observed two anglers fishing from the dock and also noted a woman and a child in the play area of the park near the launch. CO Webster parked his patrol vehicle and continued to observe the anglers for a few moments. Upon exiting his patrol vehicle and approaching the two subjects, CO Webster observed the anglers look in his direction and quickly yell over to the woman and child in the play area. Soon after the child came running to the dock and the angler handed the fishing pole to the child. CO Webster made contact and confirmed neither angler had a valid fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 9**

CO Todd Szyska received a tip from CO Kris Kiel that he received information of a subject fishing in Lottivue Canals that had over 100 crappies. After obtaining the information CO Szyska responded and contacted two separate boats fishing the canal off of Lake St. Clair. The live well of the second boat was loaded with crappies. When asked, the subject stated he had 20. It was obvious to CO Szyska he was well over that. In the end the subject was in possession of 44 crappies and four bluegill/sunfish for a total of 23 fish over his limit. Enforcement action was taken

CO Ben Lasher received a call from a local deputy that was on scene at a complaint and found an untagged turkey in the back of a truck. CO Lasher arrived and contacted the subject who possessed the turkey and who did not have a valid license. The subject stated the turkey belonged to his buddy and he was holding it for him. The CO later had contact with the second party who stated that the turkey was indeed his and he did not tag it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher responded to a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint in Columbus Township regarding a subject who had taken a Canada goose out of season. The 18 year old subject shot a Canada goose and had the goose breast meat in the freezer. The subject also had shot some Grackles. All birds were taken with a .22 rifle. CO Lasher seized the goose and the breast meat. Enforcement action was taken for the Canada goose taken out of season.

CO Ken Kovach received a complaint revolving around some nude disorderly canoeists trespassing on a private island. CO Kovach responded and while en route was updated that the subjects were three nude males. When CO Kovach arrived at the complainant's home the subjects were placing their clothes back on and were getting in

their canoes. CO Kovach caught up with the subjects on the next road crossing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Ennett worked an ongoing spearing complaint in which anglers were tossing speared suckers onto shore. The complainant stated that animals were dragging the fish into her yard. CO Ennett found a group of five anglers, three of whom were actively using spears. One was a minor, one was legal, and the third was fishing without a valid license. Enforcement action was taken and the complainant reports that the activity has ceased.

While checking vessels and anglers at the Bolles Harbor DNR Ramp, CO Mark Ennett observed a small motor boat displaying an expired registration go past the docks and up into LaPlaisance Creek. CO Ennett located the vessel and contacted the two anglers. The boat operator was asked about the vessel, and he claimed it was borrowed from a friend. There were no MC numbers, no registration paperwork, and he was also fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak and Sgt. Arthur Green responded to a RAP complaint of two dirt bikes operating on the roadway and doing tricks. After checking the area, they were unable to locate the dirt bikes so the COs went to the subject's address that was given by the complainant. While talking to the mother of one of the subjects, the riders returned home driving on the roadway. While CO Walzak and Sgt. Green explained the numerous violations, the subject's father phoned home and told his wife to have the son put the dirt bikes away and wait for him in his room. He also assured the COs that there would be no more problems like this because he will be selling the dirt bikes.

While checking shore anglers in the city of Detroit, CO Lacelle Rabon wrote six tickets within two hours for fishing without a license. All of the anglers who received tickets stated they did not think CO Rabon would be checking for fishing licenses this early in the year.

CO Lacelle Rabon responded to a RAP complaint of a number of persons taking undersized trout by the bucket full. CO Rabon contacted approximately 35-40 anglers but no violations were discovered. The anglers were so receptive to being checked they suggested that the CO return to the park weekly to check anglers so as to discourage people from illegally taking fish.

CO Mike Drexler checked a vessel coming off the Detroit River with two anglers who nervously said they caught three walleye. When CO Drexler checked their live well he observed the three walleye along with a smallmouth bass. When asked why they kept the smallmouth one of the anglers pretended to think it was a walleye. The smallmouth would have been four inches under the legal length even if it was in season. The angler received a ticket for possessing a smallmouth during the closed season.

COs Mike Drexler and Lacelle Rabon were checking shore anglers in River Rouge when they came across an angler who stated he didn't have time to buy his fishing

license because it was his first day off work. The angler had a spotty record of purchasing fishing licenses in the past and probably should have picked one up at the bait shop where he purchased a bucket of minnows prior to his fishing trip. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft was patrolling Paint Creek, which was closed to trout fishing, when he observed two subjects along the bank with fishing poles. When they noticed CO Kieft they slipped behind a large tree to avoid detection. CO Kieft contacted the two anglers who admitted that they knew the Type 1 trout stream was still closed to fishing for another week and a half. While obtaining a fishing license from one of the subjects, CO Kieft noticed a DNR business card in his wallet. When asked about it, the subject pulled out CO Kieft's business card that he had saved from calling in a previous complaint. The subject had called in a complaint in 2012 for individuals illegally fishing on the same creek. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brandon Kieft and Kris Kiel were checking the Mill Pond in Milford when they encountered two anglers who had just quit fishing. The anglers, an adult and his young nephew, had caught 49 crappies throughout the day. While getting his fishing license from his jacket, CO Kieft could smell marijuana in the air. The subject eventually admitted to being in possession of marijuana and smoking it while fishing with his young nephew. The anglers were also operating an unregistered watercraft. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft responded to a complaint of anglers fishing on Loon Lake in Waterford Township. The complainant stated that the anglers were "keeping everything they catch." CO Kieft conducted surveillance and was able to contact two vessels in violation of fishing laws. One angler was caught with an overlimit of pan fish and the other angler was in possession of two largemouth bass during the closed season. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brandon Kieft and Ben Shively conducted a midnight patrol during the annual trout opener on the Huron River. A number of anglers were contacted along the banks of the river within the Proud Lake Recreation Area. Numerous tickets were issued for violation of the new alcohol ban within the recreation area. One additional ticket was issued to an angler without a fishing license who was in possession of a rainbow trout.

CO Ben Shively patrolled a lake in southern Oakland County which has been a popular area for subjects targeting bass before the catch and release season. CO Shively watched two vessels actively fishing for and catching bass. CO Shively contacted and checked both vessels as they came in to shore and ticketed four subjects for take/attempt to take bass during the closed season.

CO Ben Shively located three subjects in a boat on the Huron River bow fishing on a closed section of a trout stream. CO Shively contacted the subjects and brought them in to shore. Two tickets were issued for bow fishing on a closed trout stream and unregistered watercraft.

CO Ben Shively and Sgt. Arthur Green responded to a RAP complaint of two subjects snagging and retaining foul hooked trout in the Proud Lake Recreation Area. CO Shively and Sgt. Green watched the two subjects from the woods and observed one subject attempting to snag trout. Contact was made with both subjects and when CO Shively asked the subject about attempting to snag and retaining foul hooked fish, the subject adamantly denied any wrongdoing. CO Shively met with the complainant and brought the complainant to the scene and had him point out where one of the trout was foul hooked. When presented with the complainant and evidence the subject admitted to the violations. The subject was ticketed and the foul hooked trout was seized and reimbursement will be sought.